

January 24, 2021
I Corinthians 9:1-18
Living Examples In Jars Of Clay

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION

To avoid being a “stumbling block” (1 Cor. 8:9) to any, Paul relinquished his right to receive support from those to whom he ministered. Old Testament priests were paid for their service (Num. 18:8-32), and so were the pagan priests with whom the Corinthians were probably more familiar. Furthermore, the instruction of Jesus was that those who give out the gospel should derive support from it (Luke 10:7). To preach the gospel was not an option for Paul. But, to do it for free, to lay aside one of his liberties was his boast. David K. Lowery

To widen his harvest of souls, Paul would gladly give up certain rights to avoid any stumbling blocks, among them was his right to monetary support. He did not want them to think that he was a mercenary or just a gun for hire, so to speak, but that he sincerely cared for their souls.

APPLICATION:

Paul had at least two things going on, one, he is instructing them in the way they should go. Second, he is leading by personal example. He is giving himself to them completely for the sake of the gospel. People do not care how much you know until they know how much you care. In your daily walk, walk in such a way that they see your love for Jesus and your love for them.